GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:886
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION BY VOS
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the Voluntary Organisations (VOs) already registered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 to receive foreign contributions in cash and kind for assisting the victims of the Gujarat earthquake;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government also propose to consider allowing such organisations to receive contribution in cash and kind in any natural calamity in any part of the country on a permanent basis?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b):Yes, Sir, The Central Government has exempted, with effect from 1st February, 2001 and up to 31st March, 2001 all associations(other than a political party) having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme, from the provisions of section 6(1A) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 to accept foreign contribution, in cash and kind, without obtaining the formal approval of the Central Government subject to the following conditions:-

(i) Each association would open a new bank account for this purpose;

(ii) The said account would be designed as the `Gujarat Earthquake Relief Account;

(iii) The association would receive foreign contribution only in the said designated bank account;

(iv) The association would maintain a separate set of accounts and records in respect of the foreign contribution received in the said designated bank account;

(v) The association would submit its particulars in Form FC-1A to the Foreigners Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs within one week of the opening of the said designated bank account; and,

(vi) The association would make an intimation regarding receipt of foreign contribution in Form FC-3 and in Form FC-6 in respect of articles, duly certified by a Chartered Accountant, within 4 months of the closure of the year to the Foreigners Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs in the manner prescribed in the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 1976.

(c): There is no such proposal at present.